

CENTENNIAL CONNECTION



FALL
2021

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THE CITY OF
CENTENNIAL

CHEERS TO 20 YEARS

As fall arrives and the end of 2021 approaches, this year has been full of events and festivities to celebrate Centennial's 20th year as an incorporated Colorado municipality. And with two remaining events, the City isn't done celebrating yet!

Mark your calendar to attend the Whiskey Warmer event from 1-5 p.m. on October 23 at Centennial Center Park. Attendees over 21 years of age can enjoy tastings from a variety of Colorado whiskey and spirits distillers, and everyone is welcome to enjoy live music and food from local vendors and food trucks. The event is free to the public but tickets are required for tastings and food may be purchased at an additional fee.

Also, you won't want to miss the Holiday Artisan Market that will be held 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on December 4 at Centennial Center Park. This is the perfect opportunity to purchase last-minute holiday gifts from local artisans and vendors. There will be plenty of other attractions at this event as well, including an array of family activities, live music and food trucks.

Details about upcoming events are available at centennialco.gov/events.



These celebrations cap off the commemorations throughout 2021 to mark the City's two-decade milestone.

The entire community has been involved in celebrating the City's anniversary. Residents and business owners contributed memories, photographs and reflections on the past 20 years through online submissions and in a special commemorative magazine — both

of which can be enjoyed by visiting centennialco.gov/20years. Highlights of the past 20 years also has been shared in news articles, social media, videos, online, print materials and signage throughout the City.

Additionally, hundreds turned out for special events throughout this year, including City-wide Summer Socials, the annual Brew-N-Que and Centennial Under the Stars events, as well as the most recent 20-Year Celebration that featured free pancakes, a high school parade, chalk art, classic cars, live music, street performers and family activities. The celebrations were historic and well-deserved experiences for residents who helped to create the City and who continue to make Centennial a desirable and distinguished community for years to come.



**8 MONEY MAGAZINE
BEST PLACES TO
LIVE IN AMERICA
CENTENNIAL, CO #8**



Mayor Piko and members of the Centennial City Council joined the High Line Canal Conservancy to kick off Walk For the Canal.

View the Candidates

Elections for a seat on Centennial City Council occur every two years in odd numbered years, on the first Tuesday in November. Seven candidates are running to fill five Council seats in the November 2, 2021, election.

View the candidates at centennialco.gov/2021candidates. Visit arapahoevotes.com for the latest election and voting information.



24-Hour Citizen Response Center

If you see something, say something!
Phone: **303-325-8000**
Online: centennialco.gov/reportaproblem



Stay Connected

Receive up-to-date news and information on what's important to you. Sign up at centennialco.gov/notifyme.



Crime Prevention

The Community Resources Unit of the Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office wants to help you reduce your chances of becoming a victim of a crime. Explore the crime prevention tips at arapahogov.com/925/Crime-Prevention.

City Launches Performance Measure Dashboard

A new Performance Measures page is now accessible on the City's website. This new webpage is organized around the City's Key Performance Areas (KPAs) and features updated measures to show progress toward achieving established goals, tying back to the City's Strategic Plan as identified by City Council.

Since 2010, the City of Centennial has maintained a performance measurement program for strategic resource management and continual performance improvement. However, over time, many of the measures that were selected have become outdated and do not always reflect changes in best practices

that have occurred. Refining the performance measures program created opportunities to:

- Identify current challenges with performance management
- Educate Staff on the purpose of performance measures and solicit input on which information is used to make decisions
- Consider best practices for performance measures and metrics from similar communities
- Ensure that the measures support the City's Strategic Plan
- Improve the final product used by Staff for decision-making and by City Council during the budget process

A select number of key measures are directly tied to the stated goal

of the KPAs. Each metric is intended to focus the conversation on the most important measures that show progress toward the City's strategic goals. Some of the newer performance measures currently don't have data displayed, as the City is tracking these data points for the first time. The measures will be updated regularly as data becomes available. Many of the performance measures will also be reported in the City's Budget Book.

The new performance measurement page is accessible under Government at centennialco.gov or by visiting centennialco.gov/performance.

Struggling to Afford Internet Service?

The Federal Communications Commission's Emergency Broadband Benefit Program provides a temporary discount on monthly broadband bills for qualifying low-income households.

Eligible households can receive up to a \$50/month discount on broadband service and associated equipment rentals, and/or a one-time discount up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50).

The program will end when the fund runs out, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the COVID-19 health emergency, whichever is sooner.

Go to GetEmergencyBroadband.org to apply online and to find participating providers near you, or call **833-511-0311** for a mail-in application.



Have you noticed these colorful, vinyl-wrapped traffic signal control boxes around the City? This beautification signage in select locations highlights Centennial's Vision statement.

Meet the Mayor

Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Centennial Civic Center (13133 E. Arapahoe Road)
Or Virtually!
View more details on our calendar at centennialco.gov/CityCalendar.



City Awards Grants for Community Improvements and Engagement

Nearly 50 homeowner associations and community groups in Centennial thus far have received Centennial Community Engagement Grants, along with 14 proposals for Large Community Improvement Grants.



The two-part Community Grants program aligns with the City’s Vision and “Signature Centennial” strategic priority by improving community engagement and neighborhood identity.

The \$500 Community Engagement Grants help fund community-building events for residents that enhance and foster neighborhood collaboration. Ideas submitted for funding range from neighborhood chalk art parties to horse-drawn wagons for a holiday event.

The application period for Large Community Grants ended in June. Four communities were selected for funding up to \$10,000 per project to support community improvements such as neighborhood signage, community gardens and fencing.

If your community has an interest in hosting a community event this year, funds may still be available for the \$500 grants. Apply by November 1 at centennialco.gov/communitygrants.

Centennial’s Population Grew 8% in Last Decade

Thanks to local residents, the City of Centennial had the highest response rate (87%) of any city with more than 100,000 residents in the 2020 U.S. Census. Findings from those responses are beginning to flow from the U.S. Census Bureau and Colorado State Demography Office. Visit demography.dola.colorado.gov to learn more.

Based on the data estimates released thus far, Centennial’s population grew 8% between 2010 and 2020, to a total of 108,418 residents. Centennial now ranks 11th in population size among Colorado cities. The City’s ranking fell one point compared to the 2019 population estimates after the City of Greeley jumped from 12th place in 2019 to 10th in 2021.

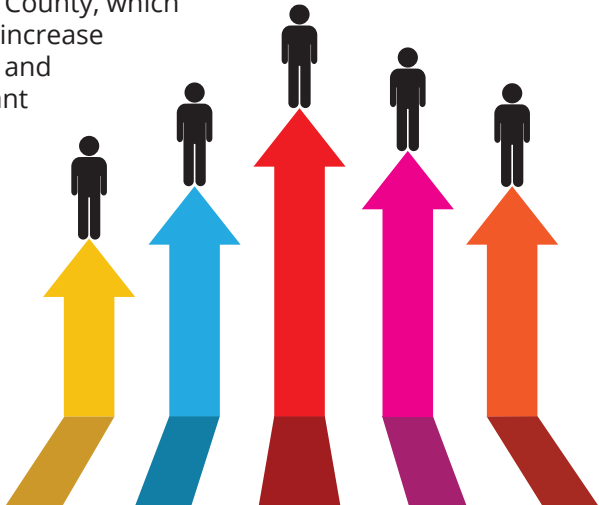
The City’s growth is in line with the nation’s growth rate, at 7.4% during the same period, but lower than the State of Colorado’s rate which approached 15%. With a 14.5% growth rate over the past decade, Arapahoe County ranked 9th among Colorado counties that experienced population growth between 2010 and 2020.

Arapahoe County led the state among other counties in the Census Bureau’s “Diversity Index,” an estimate of the likelihood that two people chosen at random would represent different race and ethnic groups. Approximately 56% of residents identify as “white alone” in Arapahoe County compared to rates of more than 70% in some nearby counties. In Centennial, 77.6% of residents identify as “white alone.”

Nearly 77% of the City’s population is over age 18, which represents a nearly 11% increase over the same population in 2010. By comparison, Arapahoe County’s population of residents older than 18 years old increased 18% in the past decade.

Preliminary data on housing units (including houses, apartments, mobile homes, a group of rooms or single rooms occupied as separate living quarters and direct or common entries) in Centennial also is available.

In Centennial, 41,571 housing units were counted in 2020, a 7.2% increase compared to those counted in 2010. Vacant housing units decreased 12.4% in the past decade. These percentages are slightly lower than Arapahoe County, which experienced a 10.2% increase in total housing units and 14% decrease of vacant housing units in the past decade. By comparison, Denver County saw a 20.7% increase overall in housing units with a 22% increase in vacant housing between 2010 and 2020.



Thank you for Participating in the 2021 Community Survey!

The City contracted with Polco/National Research Center Inc. to conduct a community survey earlier this year to provide a baseline of how well Centennial is serving residents, gauge perceptions of the City and draw comparisons with peer communities.

Survey Highlights



Out of a random and scientific sample of 5,000 households invited to complete the survey, 519 responses were received, for a response rate of 10% and a 4% margin of error. An additional 467 opted in to participate online. Overall, the majority of results are similar to the 2016 Centennial Community Survey and in line with national and Front Range community benchmarks.

Based on the results, City Staff will develop an action plan for select response topics in the survey for use in developing a strategic work plan and informing future budget requests.

Visit the centennialco.gov/survey to view the full report and listen to the City Council presentation highlighting the results.



Licenses Now Required for Short-Term Rentals in Centennial

The City is implementing a new licensing and regulatory program applicable to short-term rentals (STRs) in Centennial. STRs are temporary housing options typically reserved on a nightly, weekly or monthly basis for non-residents who are visiting the area, such as while vacationing.

The new regulations were carefully established with the intent of ensuring STRs operating in the City maintain the residential character and serenity of Centennial neighborhoods. The new program requires an annual license that must be included on all rental advertisements and dictates occupancy limits, off-street parking accommodations, trash collection, owner reachability and other operational guidelines.

To learn more about the new STR program, visit centennialco.gov/str.

12 Local Businesses Develop Experiential Concepts Through Spark Centennial Program

What do businesses like The Clue Room, T is for Table and Bridget’s Botanicals have in common? Besides being Centennial businesses, they are all participants in the 2021 Spark Centennial Business Accelerator program.

These and nine other Centennial businesses received one-on-one education and assistance with launching unique experiential events to delight customers and create connections. Learn more about what these businesses are doing and the Spark Centennial program at centennialco.gov/spark.

Remodeling and Renovation Resources



Lifelong Homes Assessment and Universal Design Guide

It May Be Time to Rethink Your Home

Did you know the majority of Centennial's homes were constructed in the 1970s and 1980s? As a result, many residents find their homes less comfortable and adaptable to the various needs of an average household today. To help aging homes adequately serve family structures and needs today, the City offers its innovative Lifelong Homes program.

The Lifelong Homes program features a digital, five-part Universal Design (UD) guide, along with a supplemental assessment for residents to consider and apply in their home renovations or building process. This dynamic tool helps in

assessing five critical focus areas when planning, prioritizing and implementing home remodeling, renovation and construction projects. In addition, the UD Guide provides a holistic view of potential home improvement requirements that better enable residents to stay in their homes longer and lead an improved quality of life.

To learn more, visit centennialco.gov/lifelonghomes.

HIP Program

Be "HIP" -- Recoup Your Project Dollars Today

Have you renovated or plan to repair your home? You could be missing out on potential dollars! The City's Home Improvement Program (HIP) helps Centennial homeowners recoup their repair and remodel dollars through

cash rebates. HIP applies to projects started on or after June 1, 2016, and qualified Centennial homeowners can receive cash rebates of up to \$300, based on the project's overall value.

Review the simple 3-step process to apply at centennialco.gov/HIP.

Don't forget the permit!

Hold the Power Tools! Is Your Renovation Permitted?

New buildings, renovations and additions to existing structures require a Building Permit before projects begin. Applying for a Building Permit is part of a lineup of online services offered by the City. Applications, in addition to online and in-person options, are accessible via centennialco.gov/onlinepermits.

City Completes Colorado Boulevard Multimodal Study

The City recently completed the Colorado Boulevard Multimodal Study which began in 2020. The purpose of this study was to identify, evaluate and select multimodal alternatives for the Colorado Boulevard corridor from Orchard Road to County Line Road for inclusion in the City's Transportation Master Plan. You can review the final study document at centennialco.gov/colorado.

Thank you to everyone who participated throughout the study process!

Arapahoe Bridge Replacement Project Begins Soon

The City plans to replace the bridge located on Arapahoe Road, east of University Boulevard and west of South Elizabeth Street. This 74-year old bridge is well past its prime and is starting to show signs of wear. The project will address needed roadway, drainage and trail improvements.

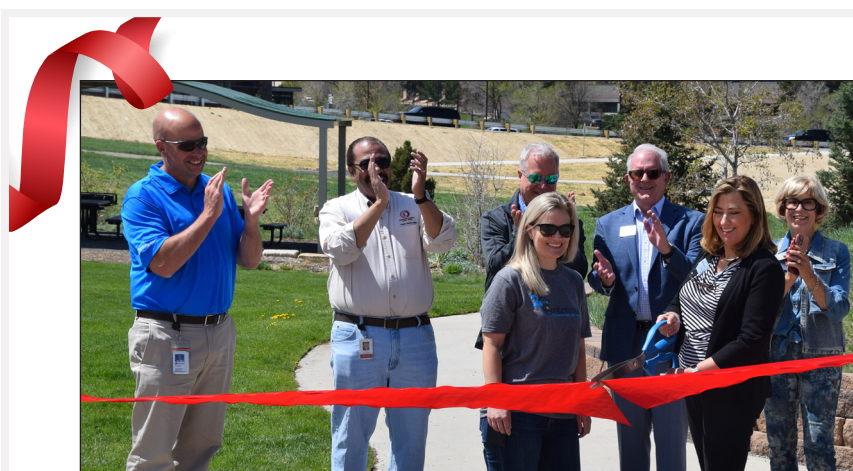
The City anticipates construction of the new bridge to start later this winter. Stay connected throughout the replacement project by visiting centennialco.gov/arapahoebridge.

Transportation Master Plan To Be Available for Final Review This Winter

A year-long process of updating Centennial's Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is currently underway. The first TMP was completed in 2013, and since then the range of mobility options and transportation uses has evolved, increasing the need for more interconnected and responsive options.

This fall, the project team is developing recommendations and an implementation plan for the TMP. Recommendations will include roadway, bicycle and pedestrian, transit, transportation demand management and advanced mobility options. The City anticipates having a draft plan available for final review this winter and the public will be able to provide their input online via centennialco.gov/HaveYourSay/TMP.

Stay informed by subscribing to our Transportation Master Plan e-newsletter list at centennialco.gov/notifications.



Trail Updates

The first phase of the Lone Tree Creek Regional Trail, running between East Broncos Parkway and Cherry Creek State Park, was completed this year, as was a section of the Centennial Link Trail between East Orchard Road and the Little Dry Creek Trail.

Meaningful and Exciting Volunteer Opportunities



Calling Centennial Teens: Join the Youth Commission!

If you're a Centennial teen between the ages of 13 and 18, we're recruiting for the Centennial Youth Commission, which meets twice per month in the evenings. Meet other area youth and collaborate on projects that enhance our City.

Centennial recruits year-round for several other boards and commissions ranging from our Open Space Advisory Board to the Board of Review. Apply today at centennialco.gov/boardsandcommissions.

The City's award-winning Centennial Center Park is embarking on additional improvements over the next two years to enhance it even more. Among the new features coming soon: event pavilion, picnic grove and shelters, gazebo and gathering space and recreational green space.





**WHISKEY
WARMER**

- Live music
- Colorado whiskey & spirits distillers
- Local vendors & food trucks

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 23
1 - 5 pm**

CENTENNIAL CENTER PARK



**HOLIDAY
ARTISAN
MARKET**

- Local Artisans and Vendors
- Family Activities
- Live Music
- Food Trucks

**December 4 • 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Centennial Center Park**